

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. But when
large companies
control the
airwaves, we get
more of what's good
for the bottom line
and less of what we
need for our
democracy. Instead
of something
produced at "News
Central" far away,
it's more important
that we see real
people from our own
communities and more
substantive news
about issues that
matter.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. While
print media can be
allowed to be
editors' toys, the
limited number of
broadcast channels
available should
dictate that their
license holders must
be held to a higher
standard of
community service.
Individuals such as
I have the freedom
to publish whatever
we please, though we
may lack the
capacity to do so.
However, I have
neither the freedom

nor the capacity to
do so using a
broadcast media,
there being a
limited nubmer of
channels available.

Blatant parisanship
masquerading as
objective news is
more obscene than a
topless Janet
Jackson and more
damaging to the
fabric of American
life than anythign
for which you have
fined Howard Stern.

Thank you.